



October 27, 2016

## The Accountant

The Accountant is either a testament to the inclusion of neuro-atypical characters into



the world of noir semi-action crime dramas or another vehicle for Ben Affleck to work on his acting range. In either case, I liked seeing Affleck as

Christian Wolff go through the motions and lack of emotions as a math genius who leads a double life as the record keeper for the mob in between calculated assassinations of people who seemed to need a little justice. I don't judge the writers.

Now, before you go on and send me emails about this being a misrepresentation of someone on the spectrum, while it is true that *The Accountant* does nothing to address stigma, it does give people a broader perspective on what a person with his condition might be capable of given certain particular circumstances. So, I thought why not have a bad-ass guy who was diagnosed with Autism as a child, severely abused both mentally and emotionally and who is just as effective in doing what he does as any other person. This is no *Rain Man*. So much is made of the savant qualities of people on the spectrum; we forget that things may also go in a whole other direction.

There are the standard twists and turns embedded like so many diodes in a motherboard. I won't spoil it for you. Just enjoy the premise and suspend your concept of what should be and you will enjoy it. J.K. Simmons, Anna Kendrick, John Lithgow and Jeffrey Tambor turn in some fine performances. In this situation, you can really see the impact of a troubled childhood on this man and how he made his unusual strengths work for him. Affleck gives a subtle performance, blending little twitches and tics into the mix. I can't comment on how likely the premise of this movie is, I can only say that it was interesting and entertaining and I was rooting for this anti-hero all the way.

So, check out *The Accountant*. It is a good Matinee movie. I give it 3 golden tickets.

